

REMARKS

Rejection of the claims under 35 USC §112:

Claims 13, 15-21, and 23-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing new matter because the phrase, “analyzing the effects of (decrease) expression of the gene on the cell” does not have explicit support in the specification. Applicants have amended the claims to obviate the rejection. Specifically, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite a process for altering an endogenous property of a cell. Support for altering the endogenous properties of a cell can be found in the specification on page 2 lines 27-28 and page 9 lines 10-13. Claim 16 has been amended to recite a process for delivering an oligonucleotide to an extravascular cell in a mammal.

Rejection of the claims under 35 USC §112:

Claims 13, 15-21, and 23-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Applicants have amended the claims as described above to obviate the rejection.

Rejection of the claims under 35 USC §112:

Claims 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, because they depend from a canceled claim. Applicants have amended the claims to obviate the rejection. Specifically, Applicants have amended claims 26 and 27 to depend from claim 16.

Rejection of the claims under 35 USC §112:

Claims 13, 15-21, and 23-29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants have amended the claims 13 and 16 as described above to obviate the rejection.

Appl. No. **10/600,098**
Amdt. dated **04/02/2007**
Reply to Office action of **01/04/2007**

The Examiner's rejections are now believed to be overcome by this response to the Office Action. In view of Applicants' amendment and arguments, it is submitted that claims 13, 15-21, and 23-29 should be allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the USPTO on this date: 04/02/2007.

/Kirk Ekena/
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